How to change front lower arm on BMW X3 E83 diesel – replacement guide

VIDEO TUTORIAL

ⓘ Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
BMW X3 (E83) 2.0 sd, BMW X3 (E83) xDrive 20 d

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – BMW X3 E83. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:

- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #10
- Combination spanner #16
- Combination spanner #22
- Drive socket # 10
- Drive socket # 18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Tap wrench
- Crow bar
- Hammer
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. AUTODOC recommends:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: FRONT LOWER ARM – BMW X3 E83. USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1

Secure the wheels with chocks.

2

Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

3

Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

4

Unscrew the wheel bolts.

Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. Tip:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

5

Remove the wheel.

6

Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

7

Unscrew the fastener connecting the ball joint of the rear control arm to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #22.

8

Clean the fasteners of the headlight levelling sensor. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

9

Unscrew the fasteners of the headlight levelling sensor. Use a combination spanner #10. Use a drive socket #10. Use a ratchet wrench.

10

Disconnect the headlight levelling sensor.

11

Clean the fasteners connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

12

Unscrew the rear fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.

13

Remove the rear fastener of the control arm. Use a hammer. Use a crowbar.

14

Remove the arm. Use a hammer. Use a crowbar.

15

Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

16

Install a new arm.

Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- During the installation process, use only new bolts and nuts.
- Do not damage the ball joint cover.

17

Install the rear fastener of the control arm.

18

Screw in the fastener connecting the ball joint of the rear control arm to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #22. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 82 Nm torque.

19

Reconnect the headlight levelling sensor.

20

Screw the rear fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.

21

Tighten the fasteners of the headlight levelling sensor. Use a combination spanner #10. Use a drive socket #10. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 7 Nm torque.

22

Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

23

Tighten the rear fastener connecting the arm to the body subframe. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 70 Nm torque.

24

Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.

25

Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.

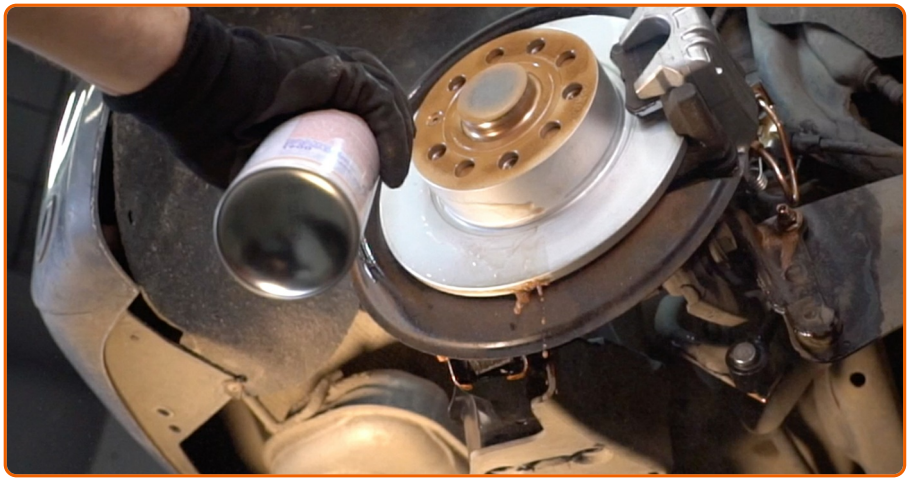
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

26

Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.

27



Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

28

Install the wheel.

Replacement: front lower arm – BMW X3 E83. Tip from AUTODOC:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

29

Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

30

Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 nm torque.

31

Remove the jacks and chocks.

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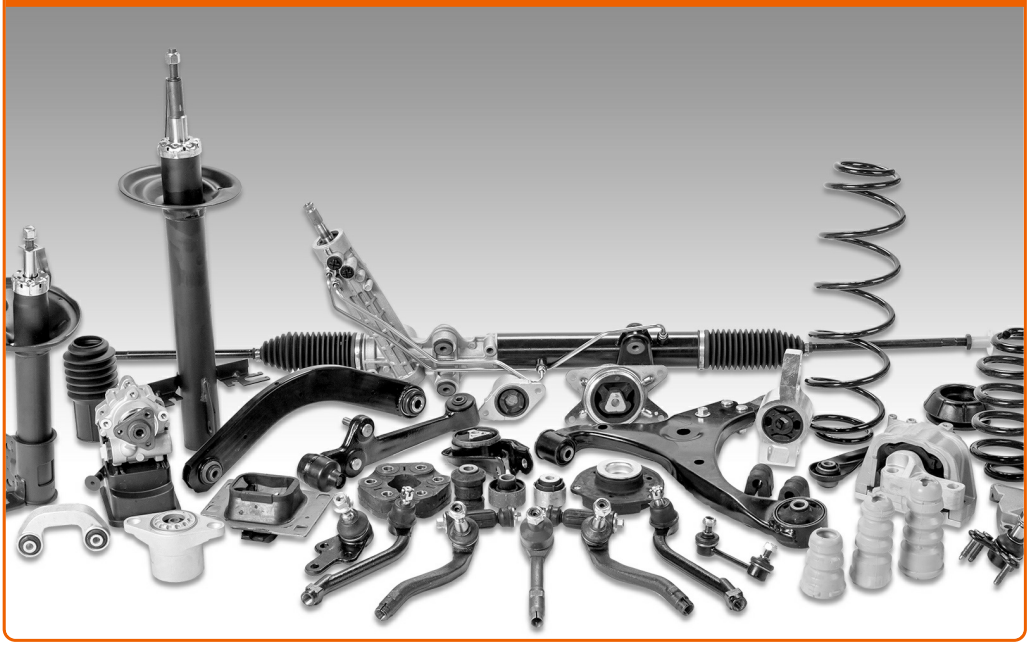

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